(c) the details of the similar disaster management machinery working in other countries like Britain, USA etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) In the wake of Rajdhani Accident, a Task Force has been constituted by the Ministry of Railways to review the Disaster management System on Indian Railways and give recommendations for strengthening and streamlining the same.

(c) In the unfortunate event of a Railway accident, relief and rescue work is generally not spearheaded by the Railway organization, but by the Civil authorities, as done in road accidents/other accidents, in many Railway systems in the world. It is understood that the role of the Railways in these countries is restricted to clearing the track and restoring traffic after the rescue work is over. However, clear details regarding UK and USA are not readily available.

Encroachment of railway land in Andhra Pradesh

426. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large portions of the railway land have been encroached upon in Andhra Pradesh, particularly in Hyderabad, Secunderabad and Vijayawada;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) Some area of railway land is under encroachment. However, State-wise details in this regard is not maintained. The details regarding encroachment in the city of Hyderabad, Secunderabad and Vijayawada are given below:—

City	No. of encroachments	Area in Hec.
Hyderabad	663	3.787
Secunderabad	268	1.299
Vijayawada	746	1.911

(c) Railways are engaged in a continuous exercise to free their land from encroachments by following the provisions of Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971 and Railways Act, 1989.

Peddapalli-Karimnagar-Nizamabad rail line

427. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount earmarked this year for completion of Peddapalli-Karimnagar-Nizamabad rail line project in the backward region; and

(b) by when, it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) The budgetary allocation for Peddapalli-Karimnagar-Nizamabad new line during 2002-03 is Rs. 10 cr.

(b) No target date has yet been fixed for completion of the project.

Probe team for Rajdhani Express accident

428. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Railways has attributed sabotage as the cause for accident of the Rajdhani Express in September, 2002 in Bihar;

(b) if so, the findings of the inquiry committee;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Prime Minister had promised an impartial inquiry by a high level and technically well-equipped team, as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 4th October, 2002; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard and the composition and terms of reference of the new probe team?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) As per Inquiry report submitted by the Commissioner of Railway Safety, Eastern Circle, the accident occurred due to "opening of fish plates and elastic rail clips of the cess side single rail in Howrah end approach of Bridge No. 445 by miscreants." He has classified the accident under the category of 'sabotage'.